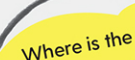




Location, location, location!

Cloud computing promises access to data and processing power from wherever you are. With a click you connect to data centers where servers and IT systems are concentrated: fiber-optic cables underground and signals overhead link up these places into global networks. The rush to develop data centers is both a competition for space, and a race for faster and faster connectivity. Online retail, social media, data portals, or internet trading— you can get there faster if you pay for network location.



Where is the cloud and how is it organized? How does it structure co-habitation via customization, connectivity, and security protocols?


A hand-drawn map of a city grid. The grid consists of several squares. Three squares are shaded with diagonal lines and contain a cloud with a face. These squares are labeled 'Data Center'. The streets are labeled 'Jefferson St' and 'Clinton St'. A small circle is marked on Clinton St.

EXPERIENCE THE CULTURE!
Day-tripping the Petrocapital

This map, created by Rozalinda Borcila, Becky Nasadowski, and Javier, accompanies a walk of downtown Chicago. It is part of a series of field trips that probe the connections between fossil fuels, financial markets and the ways notions of community and citizenship are deployed.

We interrupt this tour...

Moving between the bubble and the cloud, we pause at the Federal Building, immigration enforcement, and the jail. How do finance and real estate organize ways of governing? How do they depend on, and reconfigure, enduring structures of racialized violence?

 **Federal Building:** Houses the Department of Labor, Department of State, Drug Enforcement Administration, etc.

Do derivatives hit the ground?

Around, beneath and above us, millions of derivatives contracts worth trillions of dollars are bought and sold faster than a fraction of a blink of an eye. Everything can be broken up, indexed and recombined as a financial asset, as odds on a wager: health, climate, debt, survival, uncertainty itself. But the plazas of the Chicago Board of Trade and the Chicago Board Options Exchange are spaces of tranquility and order. Here, we are brought into a specific kind of togetherness, recasting the speculative frenzy as equilibrium and risk management. We walk a few blocks south to the river, where a real estate megadevelopment corridor opens up new cycles of speculation, displacement, and expropriation. Here, financial derivatives take material form.

Who and what is being put at risk? Development is not just about buildings; it is about the economic, political, and social arrangements that underwrite them.

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